IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-implemented method of accessing information from a collection of data comprising:

receiving a query;

generating an inverse index of the collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information; and

generating results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, and using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information, which is then mapped to items in the relational database management system.

2. (ORIGINAL) The computer-implemented method of claim 1 wherein generating the inverse index comprises:

storing a canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-implemented method of claim 2 wherein generating the inverse index further comprises:

storing the category hierarchical information generated from the collection of data with the inverse index;

applying a parser and grammar rules to the collection of data to produce a canonical non-terminal representation of the data.

4. (ORIGINAL) The computer-implemented method of claim 3 wherein the generating results comprises:

applying the parser and the grammar rules to the query to produce a query canonical form; and

matching the query canonical form to the canonical non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index.

-4-

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program, residing on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive a query;

generate an inverse index of a collection of data that is augmented with category hierarchy information; and

generate results to the query in conjunction with the inverse index by performing a search request of the inverse index, and using results from the search request with a search request of a relational database management system, wherein a match to an item in the inverse index also retrieves corresponding category hierarchy information, which is then mapped to items in the relational database management system.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer program of claim 5 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

store the category hierarchical information generated from the data in the inverse index with the inverse index; and

apply a parser and grammar rules to the data to produce canonical non-terminal representations of the data in the inverse index.

7. (ORIGINAL) The computer program of claim 6 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

apply the parser and grammar rules to the query to generate a query canonical form; and

match the query canonical form to the non-terminal representation of the data in the inverse index.

-5-